

Department of Justice

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Central District of Illinois

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Silvis Man Charged with Producing Child Pornography

Rock Island, Ill. – A Silvis, Ill., man, John J. Frazer, 31, has been arrested and charged with production of child pornography in a criminal complaint filed today by the U.S. Attorney's Office, Central District of Illinois.

Frazer, of the 800 block of 11th Street Court, Silvis, Ill., was arrested yesterday and made his initial court appearance this morning before U.S. District Judge Sara L. Darrow. Judge Darrow ordered that Frazer remain detained in the custody of the U.S. Marshals Service pending preliminary and detention hearings scheduled on Thursday, Aug. 30, at 9:00 a.m. before Judge Darrow.

According to the affidavit filed in support of the complaint, Danish National Police made a referral to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Homeland Security Investigations Cyber Crime Center after Danish Police identified an account that was allegedly posting illicit images on a Russian website. Law enforcement authorities established that the Internet Protocol (IP) address used to upload images to the Russian website was linked to Frazer's Silvis apartment. On Aug. 27, federal authorities executed a search warrant at Frazer's apartment and arrested Frazer.

If convicted, the statutory penalty for production of child pornography is a mandatory minimum 15 years and up to a maximum 30 years in prison. The offense also carries a term of supervised release of up to life following any term of imprisonment.

The charges are the result of an ongoing investigation by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Homeland Security Investigations; the Moline Police Department; and the Silvis Police Department. Assistant U.S. Attorney Kirk W. Schuler is prosecuting the case in cooperation with the Rock Island County State's Attorney's Office.

Members of the public are reminded that a complaint is merely an accusation; the defendant is presumed innocent unless proven guilty.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice. Led by U.S. Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS), Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet as well as to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov.